

## **REMARKS**

Claims 48 and 49 have been amended as suggested in the office action dated January 24, 2003.

Claims 46 and 47 have been amended to clarify that the separated hybridized oligonucleotide is not cleaved or cut but that the solution which contains the hybridized oligonucleotide is separated and each portion contains nucleic acid from the hybridized oligonucleotide. Support for these claims is found on page 13, lines 3-7, in the paragraph beginning with the phrase, "After hybridization was complete,..."

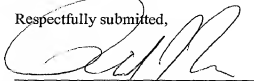
Claims 46 and 47 were previously amended by replacing the phrase "oligonucleotides are" and by deleting the phrase "or experimentally determined." These amendments rendered the other reasons for the rejection of claims 47 and 48 under 35 USC /first and second paragraphs moot.

Applicants submit this Reply and the Reply of April 28, 2003, respond to all issues raised in the office action of January 24, 2003.

Based on the above remarks, Applicant's submit that all claims are now in condition for allowance.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees associated with this response or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-3402.

Respectfully submitted,



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